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March 1965

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

ICBM COMPLEX, IMENI GASTELLO, USSR

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

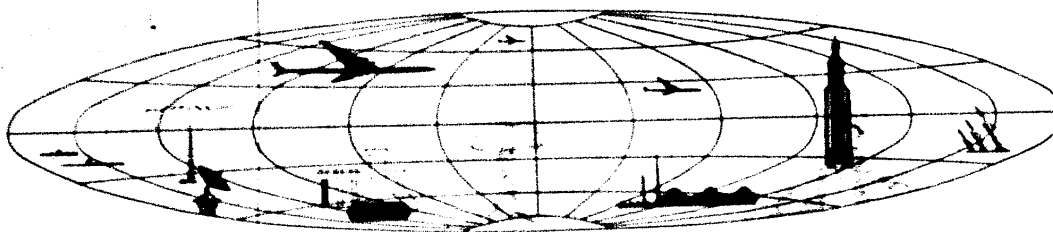


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Launch Site A (TDI Site 1)	51-03N 66-06E
Launch Site B (TDI Site 2)	51-06N 66-02E
Launch Site C (TDI Site 3)	51-10N 66-06E
Launch Site D (TDI Site 4)	51-07N 66-13E
Launch Site E (TDI Site 5)	51-13N 66-13E
Launch Site F (TDI Site 6)	51-14N 66-06E

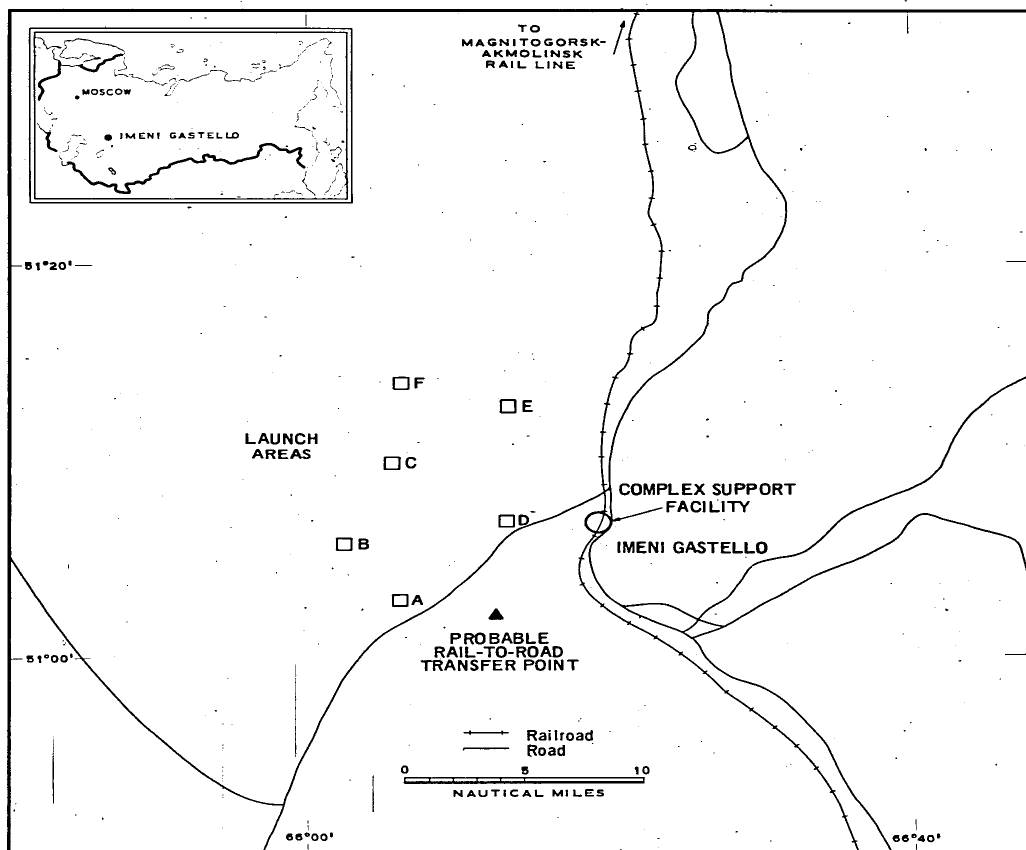


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF COMPLEX.

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INTRODUCTION

The Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex is located on a branch of the Magnitogorsk-Akmolinsk rail line, approximately 51 nautical miles (nm) south of Yesil. It is situated in an area of relatively flat-to-gently rolling terrain, with relief ranging from 900 to 1,100 feet. Extensive agriculture is conducted throughout the immediate vicinity. The complex consists of a complex support facility, a probable rail-to-road transfer point, and 6 single-silo launch areas, all in a midstage of construction. There are also 2 areas of track activity in the vicinity of the complex, as yet functionally unidentified. Construction activity was first identified at the complex support facility, the probable rail-to-road transfer point, and Launch Areas C, D, and E on photography of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There was no evidence of the complex in [REDACTED]

The various components of the complex (Figure 1) are connected by an adequate network of existing rural roads, and no extensive road construction or improvement has been noted. Some improvement has been necessary to connect existing roads with the construction sites, but this has been accomplished with a minimum of new surfacing and often is no more than tracking across open fields. In general, each launch area includes a launch site consisting of a U-shaped excavation, which contains a nearly square silo with a circular aperture, and adjacent rectangular or square earth mounds or graded areas; the excavation at Launch Area E is more nearly square. A group of associated buildings, removed some distance from the silo excavation, is present at all but Launch Area F. The orientation, and distances between individual launch areas are shown in Figure 2.

No surface-to-air missile (SAM) defenses

have been identified in the vicinity of the complex.

COMPLEX SUPPORT FACILITY

The complex support facility (51-07N 66-19E) adjoins the town of Imeni Gastello on the west and north (Figures 3 and 4). It consists of a railhead and storage area, an administration and housing area, and a secured storage area. Only portions of the facility are fenced. Rail connections are available to the Magnitogorsk-Akmolinsk line, and road service is provided by existing rural roads.

Construction activity is continuing in most segments of the complex support facility. The railhead and storage area occupies most of the western part of the facility. It includes a rail spur which, when completed, will provide approximately 3,500 feet of trackage, a large rectangular and a large E-shaped building, 6 smaller rectangular buildings, 13 small structures (9 of which could be personnel tents or temporary housing), and a possible motor pool/vehicle park. The secured storage area, containing 1 large and 3 small buildings, is located southeast of the railhead and storage area. The administration and housing area, north of Imeni Gastello, contains 4 T-shaped buildings, an L-shaped building, 23 barracks-type buildings, 21 smaller buildings, and 4 additional barracks-type buildings under construction.

A rail-served secured POL storage area containing 11 tanks and 7 buildings is located east of the railhead and storage area and north of the secured storage area. This area was present prior to construction of the complex support facility, and has been expanded since. There is little or no track activity between the 2 installations, and the POL storage area does not appear to be a component of the complex

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support facility.

A 3,000-foot rail spur, approximately 2,500 feet southeast and parallel to the spur serving the railhead and storage area, terminates at 2 storage-type buildings. The spur and terminus may or may not be part of the complex support facility; track activity connects the terminus with the railhead and storage area.

PROBABLE RAIL-TO-ROAD TRANSFER POINT

A probable rail-to-road transfer point (51-02N 66-12E), which can be negated on photography of [REDACTED] is under construction 6.8 nm southwest of the complex support facility (Figure 5). Clearing and grading of the rail and road rights-of-way are nearing completion; they have not been joined, as yet, but the probable transfer point is well defined. The 2 sets of 3 parallel linear ground scars at the probable transfer point are approximately 390 feet long, and may be footings for 2 large buildings. A single ground scar and a [REDACTED] building are situated in a cleared area about 3,800 feet northeast of the probable transfer point.

LAUNCH AREA A

Launch Area A (Figure 6), located on generally flat terrain 9.0 nm southwest of the complex support facility, was first observed in a midstage of construction in [REDACTED]. There was no evidence of the launch area in [REDACTED].

The single-silo launch site was last observed in [REDACTED] in a midstage of construction. A probable-security fence encloses a U-shaped excavation 220 by 115 feet, with earthen ramps on either side providing access to the deeper portion of the excavation. The excavation contains a silo

65 by 50 feet, with an aperture of undetermined diameter. A rectangular earth mound is adjacent to the west side of the excavation. Spoil and snow have been mounded along the southern and western sides of the excavation, possibly as a temporary windbreak during construction. There are 11 small buildings in the immediate vicinity of the launch site, probably also associated only with the construction activity.

A group of associated buildings about 2,600 feet northwest of the silo excavation includes a T-shaped building, 8 rectangular buildings, and 2 small buildings. The specific function of these buildings has not been determined, but their location and orientation with respect to the launch site suggest an operational rather than a support function.

Approximately 5,000 feet northwest of the launch site are 7 unidentified structures, possibly personnel tents, 6 of which are nearly square and the seventh rectangular. The structures are connected with the launch site by road and track activity.

LAUNCH AREA B

Launch Area B (Figure 7), located on generally flat terrain 10.7 nm west-southwest of the complex support facility, was first identified in a midstage of construction in [REDACTED] and can be negated on photography of [REDACTED].

The single-silo launch site, enclosed by a hexagonal probable security fence, is in a midstage of construction on photography of [REDACTED]. The U-shaped silo excavation approximately 220 by 120 feet, which has 2 earth ramps leading into it, contains a coring with an aperture approximately [REDACTED] in diameter. An apparent graded rectangular area is adjacent to the west side

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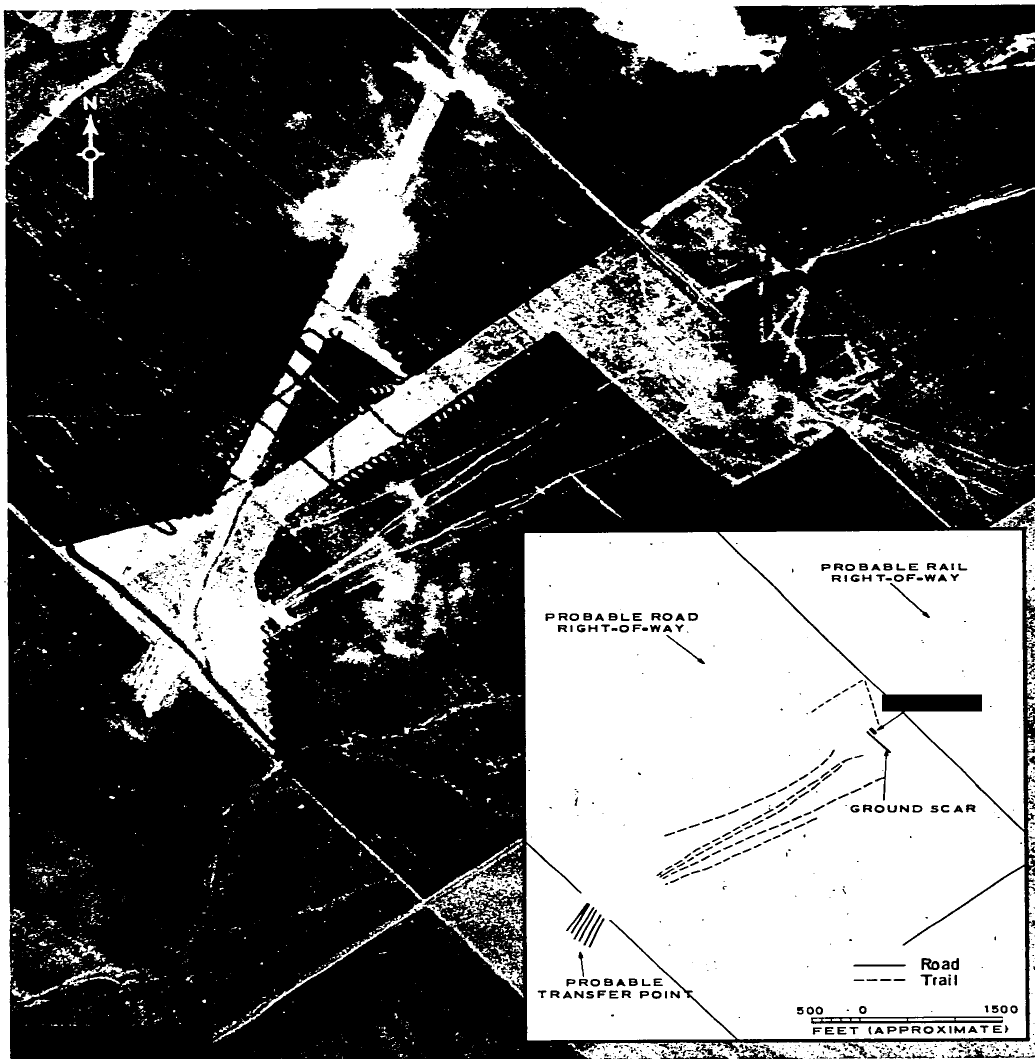
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FIGURE 5. PROBABLE RAIL-TO-ROAD TRANSFER POINT.

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of the excavation. The 2 small buildings within the launch site probably are associated with the construction activity.

A group of associated buildings about 3,400 feet northeast of the silo excavation includes a T-shaped building, 7 rectangular buildings, and 4 small buildings. The specific function of these buildings has not been determined, but their position relative to the launch site suggests an operational rather than a support function.

LAUNCH AREA C

Launch Area C (Figure 8) is located on flat, well drained, formerly cultivated land 9.7 nm west-northwest of the complex support facility. It was first identified in an early stage of construction in [REDACTED] and can be negated on photography of [REDACTED]

The single-silo launch site, approximately 700 by 500 feet, is enclosed by a hexagonal probable security fence. It is in a midstage of construction on photography of [REDACTED] and contains a U-shaped excavation approximately 270 by 95 feet, with 2 earth ramps leading down to the silo construction level. The silo is approximately 45 feet square, but the diameter of the aperture cannot be determined from available photography. A rectangular earth mound is adjacent to the west side, and a square mound is on the east side of the excavation. There are also 2 small construction-type buildings adjacent to the excavation.

A group of associated buildings about 2,400 feet north of the silo excavation includes a T-shaped building, 8 buildings [REDACTED] feet and a similar building under construction, a smaller rectangular building, and 3 small miscellaneous buildings. The buildings are con-

nected with the launch site by road, but their specific function has not been determined.

LAUNCH AREA D

Launch Area D (Figure 9), located 4.0 nm west of the complex support facility, was first identified in a midstage of construction in [REDACTED]

The launch site, enclosed by a large perimeter fence with a minimum side of approximately 1,600 feet, is in a midstage of construction on photography of [REDACTED]. The 90- by 80-foot silo excavation, with deeply cut earth ramps entering from the north and east, is enclosed by a trapezoidal probable solid-wall security fence approximately 350 by 300 feet. The silo-structure footing within the excavation is about [REDACTED] feet, but no measurable silo aperture is visible on available photography. Two small buildings adjacent to the west side of the silo excavation, and a third on the south side, probably are associated with the construction activity. Another small shed-type structure is located at the northeast corner of the probable solid-wall fence enclosing the silo excavation. A loop road pattern which apparently will eventually cross the silo excavation area is visible at the southwest corner of the perimeter fence. A second large excavation, approximately 260 by 85 feet, with large spoil piles along its eastern and southern sides, occupies the southeast portion of the launch site. The position of this excavation with respect to the silo excavation, and the unusually large dimensions of the perimeter fence suggest the possibility of an eventual electronic facility such as that at Launch Complex I at the Tyuratam Missile Test Center.

A group of associated buildings approx-

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imately 3,400 feet south of the silo excavation includes a T-shaped building, 7 rectangular buildings, and 4 small buildings. The buildings are connected with the launch site by road, but their specific function has not been determined. Approximately 1,400 feet southwest of the launch site are 4 other buildings of undetermined function.

LAUNCH AREA E

Launch Area E (Figure 10) is located on well drained, formerly cultivated land 8.1 nm northwest of the complex support facility. It was first identified in a midstage of construction



The single-silo launch site, with no char-

acteristic security fencing apparent, is in a midstage of construction on photography of [REDACTED] The 80- by 75-foot silo excavation at this site is considerably smaller and more square than the usual configuration, and contains a well-defined silo structure. The 2 access ramps are not parallel but enter from the northeast and southwest sides. The characteristic rectangular earth mound abutting the silo excavation is not present at this site, but there are indications of a loop road pattern on the west side. Three small buildings, probably associated with the construction activity, are located in the immediate vicinity of the excavation.

A group of associated buildings approximately 2,700 feet south-southeast of the silo excavation includes a T-shaped building, 8



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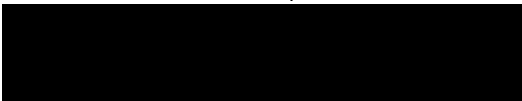
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rectangular buildings, and 3 small buildings. The buildings are connected with the launch site by road, but their specific function has not been determined.

LAUNCH AREA F

Launch Area F (Figure 11) is located on flat, well drained terrain 10.9 nm northwest of the complex support facility. It was first



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The single-silo launch site, with no apparent security fencing, is in an early stage of construction on photography of [REDACTED]

The silo excavation, unlike the others in the complex, has sloping walls and is 300 by 140 feet at ground level and 250 by 90 feet at the base. The silo aperture within the excavation is approximately [REDACTED] in diameter. The characteristic rectangular earth mound west of the silo excavation is 140 by 70 feet, and also appears to slope down to the silo coring; a square mound is adjacent to the east side of the excavation.

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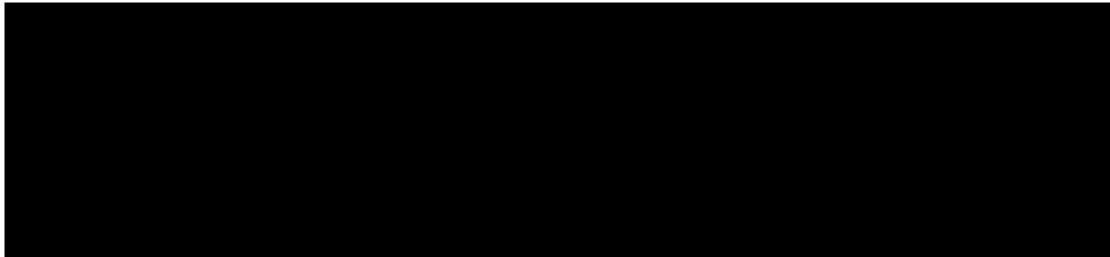
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MAPS OR CHARTS

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